

REMARKS

Claim 16 was withdrawn from consideration pursuant to an election of species requirement, which was made final. The Applicants have canceled claim 16 to place the application in better form for allowance or consideration on appeal.

The Examiner withdrew the rejection of claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. The Examiner apparently withdrew the rejection of claim 17 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph because this rejection was not maintained.

The Examiner maintained the rejection of claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as being broader than the enabling disclosure of the specification because the Examiner argues that the specification is enabling for 1,3,5,7-tetramethylcyclotetrasiloxane and 1,3,5,7,9-pentamethylcyclopentasiloxane but does not reasonably provide enablement for cyclosiloxane (c) which encompasses species not described. The Examiner further argues that the specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to make and use the invention commensurate in scope with the claims.

The Examiner maintained the rejection of claims 8-15 and 17-20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakayoshi in view of Fukui and Cole and Japanese Patent 446962 because the Examiner argues that Nakayoshi discloses a conductive adhesive comprising an alkenyl group-containing organopolysiloxane, an organohydrogensiloxane, silver flakes, a chloroplatinic acid/ methylvinylsiloxane dimer complex and an epoxy endblocked organosilicon compound containing diethoxysiloxy, dimethylsiloxy, and methylvinylsiloxy units. The Examiner admits that Nakayoshi fails to recite pre-treatment of the silver particles with an organosilicon compound. The Examiner further argues that Fukui discloses treatment of silver particles with an organosilicon compound. The Examiner concludes that it would have been obvious to treat the silver flakes of Nakayoshi with the organosilicon compound of Fukui to impart stabilization against oxidation and improve dispersibility. The Examiner admits that the cure inhibitor is not recited by Nakayoshi and Fukui. The Examiner further argues that Cole discloses a formulation containing an inhibitor such as acetylenic alcohols. The Examiner further argues that the Japanese patent discloses a blend of alkenyl groups-containing organopolysiloxane, organohydrogenpolysiloxane, filler, platinum-silicone resin catalyst and

phenyl butynol. The Examiner concludes that it would have been obvious to incorporate phenyl butynol into the composition of Nakayoshi to prolong pot life and enhance storage stability based on the disclosures of Cole and the Japanese patent.

The Applicants have addressed the rejections of claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph and of claims 8-15 and 17-20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) in the Appeal Brief dated 20 November, 2003.

Although the Applicants believe in good faith that no extensions of time are needed, the Applicants hereby petition for any necessary extensions of time. You are authorized to charge deposit account 04-1520 for any fees necessary to maintain the pendency of this application. You are authorized to make any additional copies of this sheet needed to accomplish the purposes provided for herein and to charge any fee for such copies to deposit account 04-1520.

Respectfully Submitted,
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